IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph number **[0029]** as follows:

[0029] The apertures 16 formed by walls 18 and 20 may have any desired overall shape or each portion may have any desired shape, such as square, circular, oval, rectangular, other polygonal shapes or combinations thereof. The aperture 16 and the portions thereof formed by walls 18 and 20 each have a nominal diameter. The height or thickness of the material element 28 is typically greater than the nominal diameter thereof, but can also be substantially the same height and nominal diameter. The ratio of vertical height to the nominal diameter of the material element 28 at the base thereof ranges from 0.1 to 10. This range translates to from 0.001" to 0.050" in height and from 0.0011" to 0.5" in diameter. The thickness of the stencil 12 ranges from 0.1 to 10 times the nominal diameter of the aperture 16 adjacent the top surface of the stencil 12 in forming material element 28. This range of height to nominal diameter ratios is achievable only because of the ability to extrude or apply the material as disclosed and illustrated herein, rather ~~than is~~ than as done in the prior art methods using other stencils. What limits the ratio of the element height versus the diameter at the base of the material element 28 is the viscosity of the material 26, as well as its thixotropic index. Thixotropic, highly viscous materials are used that have a viscosity typically ranging from 30K to 310K centipoise with approximately 70K centipoise being preferred. The thixotropic index typically ranges from 1.7-3.2, with approximately 2.5 being preferred.

Please amend paragraph number **[0032]** as follows:

[0032] Yet another embodiment of stencil 12 is illustrated in FIGS. 7 and 8. FIG. 7 illustrates a stencil 12 being formed in multiple layers 34, 36 thereby having formed therein first and second walls 18 and 20, respectively, of an aperture 16. The first layer 34 forms the first portion of each aperture 16 by way of first wall 18 therein. Next, a second layer 36, applied to the bottom of first layer 34, forms the second portion of aperture 16 by way of second wall 20 therein. Second layer 36 forms second portions of aperture 16 having larger cross-sectional areas than the cross-sectional areas of the first portions by way of the nominal diameter of the ~~cross-~~

~~sectional~~ cross-sectional areas formed by second walls 20 being greater than the nominal diameter of the ~~cross-sectional~~ cross-sectional areas formed by first walls 18. If desired, more than two layers 34, 36 may be used. FIG. 8 illustrates material element 28, formed in a similar manner as is depicted in FIGS. 1-4, using the stencil formed of multiple layers 34, 36.